

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-C-07-17

Issued at: Petersburg, Monday,
March 6, 2017

Effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, May 1, 2017
Date:

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday,
July 15, 2017, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION: This emergency order establishes the sport bag and possession limit in District 8 at one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, in order to reduce the harvest of Stikine River king salmon.

REGULATION: The provisions of 5 AAC 47.021(m)(1) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Monday, May 1 through Saturday, July 15, 2017:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

(m) In the Petersburg/Wrangell vicinity:

(1) In the waters of District 8 as described in 5 AAC 47.057(d);

(A) The king salmon bag and possession limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length.

Sam Cotten
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Patrick Fowler
Petersburg/Wrangell
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION: The 2017 preseason forecast for large Stikine River king salmon is 18,300. This level of abundance is on the low end of the escapement goal range (14,000–28,000) and below the preseason management target of 21,000 (the midpoint of the escapement goal). Given the projected low abundance of Stikine River king salmon, this action is being taken to conserve Stikine River king salmon by restricting sport fisheries in the marine waters adjacent to the mouth of the Stikine River (District 8).

The king salmon sport fishery in District 8 is managed under the directives of the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055) and in times when an allowable catch

is present (as determined by the Transboundary Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission), may be modified by the Stikine River King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.057). Given a low king salmon abundance forecast for 2017, the uncertainty associated with that forecast, and the failure to meet the Stikine River king salmon escapement goal in 2016, restrictions to conserve Stikine River king salmon are warranted.

DISTRIBUTION: The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270; and at the Petersburg Area Office, 16 Sing Lee Alley Petersburg, AK 99833-0667 (907) 772-3801; and, at the Wrangell Area Office, 215 Front Street, Wrangell, AK, (907) 874-3822.